A Special Problems Course (aka Independent Study Course) is a course on a research topic of the student’s choosing with a faculty member with expertise/experience on the topic. Credit for this is taken on a letter-grade basis. This credit counts towards the INTA electives or free electives.

The work required for a three-credit special problems course is equivalent to the work required in a normal three-credit classroom course. The supervising faculty member and the student determine the topic, requirements, and a schedule of meetings for the special problems course. The faculty member submits a grade for the student at the end of the semester like a regular class. The decision to pursue a special problems course, in which the student will be studying and researching independently, should not be made hastily. The course requires steady, regular work and much more discipline on the part of the student since there is not a class that meets regularly or continual assessment by the professor as there is for standard courses.

A request for an independent study class must have a synopsis of the work to be completed (e.g. a combination of any of the following: a writing journal, detailed outline, literature review, first draft, and final research paper) and a description of the anticipated outcome attached to this form. The request must also explain in two or three sentences how the instructor’s research experience will benefit this independent study. No form will be accepted or signed without this. Independent studies are limited to three credit hours. Any form that has above 30 characters will be returned to the faculty member for correction.

Directions:
The student and supervising faculty member should meet to complete this form. Next the student should see Dr. Kirk Bowman for the Program Director’s Signature. The form should then be submitted to Vince Pedicino. The course will be created and an e-mail will be sent to the student with a special CRN and course information for which the student will need to go to OSCAR to register.

Print Student’s Name: ___________________________ gtID: 90 _______________________

Semester of Special Problems/Research (circle one): Spring 2017

Print Email Address: ___________________________@gatech.edu

Class Year (circle one): 1st 2nd 3rd 4th 5th or higher

Degree Major: ___________________________

Number of Credit Hours for course: ________

Print Research Project Title: ___________________________ (TITLE IS LIMITED TO 30 CHARACTERS – SPACES INCLUDED)

This special problems course is (check one):

☐ For unpaid research in conjunction with a faculty member’s research - INTA 2699 (FR/SOPH) or 4699 (JR/SR)
☐ For paid research in conjunction with a faculty member’s research - INTA 2698 (FR/SOPH) or 4698 (JR/SR)
☐ Focused on a topic not related to a faculty member’s research and not related to an internship - INTA 2903/4903

Student’s Signature: ___________________________ Date __________

Supervising Professor’s Printed Name: ___________________________ Date __________

Supervising Professor’s Signature: ___________________________ Date __________

Program Director’s Signature: ___________________________ Date __________